

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 25 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by US3,914,478 (Johansson et al) It is believed that the above amendments to the claims obviate the rejection.

Claim 1-4 and 25 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by US5,491,591 (Patitas et al). It is believed that the above amendments to the claims obviate the rejection.

Claims 1-2 and 25 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by JP64-000171.

Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated by WO/0194453.

The invention relates to a method of forming a dried, glossy coating having a tensile strength of greater than or equal to 500 psi on a tire, comprising,

applying an aqueous-based tire dressing composition to a surface of a tire, the aqueous-based tire-dressing composition comprising a film-forming polymer liquid dispersion selected from the group consisting of aqueous polyurethane dispersions or aqueous urethane acrylic copolymers and an antifoaming agent.

Support for the antifoaming agent can be found in claim 3. Support for certain dispersions and copolymers can be found in claim 2. Support for the tensile strength can be found in paragraph 26.

Johansson et al reference relates to coating the rubber with an EPM or EPDM interpolymer (see abstract). Applicants claim 1 as amended applies a film-forming polymer liquid dispersion selected from the group consisting of aqueous polyurethane dispersions or aqueous urethane acrylic copolymers. Thus, the claims of the present application distinguish the Johansson reference at least by their recitation of certain dispersions and copolymers.

Patitas et al reference relates to coating the rubber substrate with a blend of a water dispersible insoluble polyurethane and a water soluble polyvinyl alcohol (see abstract). Applicants claim 1 as amended applies a film-forming polymer liquid dispersion selected from the group consisting of aqueous polyurethane dispersions or aqueous urethane acrylic copolymers. Thus, the claims of the present application distinguish the Patitas reference at least by their recitation of certain dispersions and copolymers.

JP64-000171 (abstract) disclose a composition dispersed an emulsion prepared by emulsion polymerizing monomer(s) in water. Applicants claim 1 as amended applies a film-forming polymer liquid dispersion and an antifoaming agent. Thus, the claims of the present application distinguish the JP64-000171 (abstract) at least by their recitation the antifoaming agent.

US2003/0127170 (WO/0194453) relates to a method for anti-ozone protection of at least a port of the outer surface of a vulcanized tire, where the composition of the tire is based on essentially unsaturated diene elastomers. The method comprising (subjecting the surface of the vulcanized tire to a treatment in order to polarize and functionalize the elastomers fo the surface; (2) applying at least one layer comprising an aqueous polyurethane dispersion to this treated surface; and (3) allowing this layer to dry until a protective coating is formed. Applicants claim 1 as amended applies a film-forming polymer liquid dispersion and an antifoaming agent. Thus, the claims of the present application distinguish the US2003/0127170 at least by their recitation the antifoaming agent. Further claim 25 recites "wherein the tire surface is not pre-treated to functionalize or polarize the tire surface" Thus, the claim 25 of the present application distinguish the US2003/0127170 reference at least by their recitation of not pre-treated.

It is believed that the above amendments to the claims obviate the 102(a) and 102(b) rejections. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 102 rejections.

Claims 1-4 and 25 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. To the extent not obviated by the above amendments to the claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

The term "resilient" has been deleted from claim 1 obviating the rejection. The claim now reads "dried, glossy coating having a tensile strength of greater than or equal to 500 psi". It is submitted that the term "glossy" is readily understood by a person skilled in the art. The term glossy is defined in the Webster dictionary as "smooth and shining".

It is believed that Claim 25 as amended to read "the tire surface comprising elastomers" obviates the rejection.

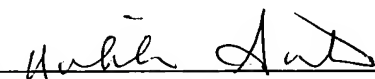
It is believed that the above amendments to the claims obviate the 112 rejections. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 112 rejections.

The title has been amended to be consistent with page 1 and the Abstract.

Applicants respectfully request that a Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If it would be considered helpful in resolving any issues in the case, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,
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